

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for the production of a forged piston for an internal combustion engine, having a combustion depression provided on the piston head, comprising the steps of:

forming a piston blank from a first cylindrical unmachined part having at least one flat face made of oxidation-resistant steel and a second cylindrical unmachined part having at least one flat face made of hot-forgeable steel, said parts having same diameters, causing the combustion depression to be formed from oxidation-resistant steel, said step of forming comprising:

(a) bringing the unmachined parts together at their flat faces and aligning said faces with respect to their diameters, so that the flat faces form a minimal projection and a minimal parting; and

(b) fixing the unmachined parts in place at the parting by means of a minimal number of weld points; and

finishing the piston blank via machining to produce a piston ready for installation in the internal combustion engine.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of fixing is accomplished by forming three weld points, offset from one another on the circumference by an angle of 120 degrees.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the step of fixing is carried out without preheating the unmachined parts.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein immediately after fixing, the unmachined parts are inductively heated and subsequently forged to produce a piston blank in a heated state.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the heating process takes place at a temperature of 1100°C to 1300°C.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of fixing comprises arc welding, laser welding, or electron beam welding.